

REMARKSRestriction Requirement:

In an Office Action dated February 26, 2004, the Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement
5 with regard to the above-identified patent application. Generally, the Examiner took the position that
Claims 1-39 (Group I) and Claims 40-47 (Group II) were distinct inventions. Applicant hereby
elects to prosecute Claims 1-39 (Group I) in this patent application. However, Applicant respectfully
reserves the right to pursue Claims 40-47 (Group II) in a subsequent divisional/continuation
application.

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Status of Claims:

Claims 1-47 were originally filed with the patent application. Claims 40-47 have been
canceled pursuant to the above-noted Restriction Requirement. New Claims 48-55 have been added
herein. Therefore, Claims 1-39 and 48-55 will be pending upon entry of this First Preliminary
15 Amendment.

Conclusion:

Although Applicant believes that no other fees are due for filing this Response to Restriction Requirement, please charge any fees deemed necessary to Deposit Account No. 50-1419.

Respectfully submitted,

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